

**AUSTRALIAN**

# **UFO**

**BULLETIN**



**THE VICTORIAN U.F.O. RESEARCH SOCIETY**

**P.O. BOX 43 MOORABBIN 3189 VICTORIA AUSTRALIA**



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# EASTERN SUBURBS SIGHTINGS

Following publicity given to sightings in the Dandenong Ranges recently, more reports have been received by the Society from the eastern suburbs of Melbourne:

Mt. Evelyn, 16/8/77, 12.15 p.m.

The witness, a 28 year old wood machinist, had just finished his lunch at his place of work in Canterbury Rd., Mt. Evelyn. Stretching out on his back on a pile of logs to relax for a few moments, as was his common practice during the lunch break, he observed a dark spherical object pass directly overhead from north to south at high speed. Because of his position the object passed out of sight behind an overhanging roof, and he immediately stood up for a better view and alerted his workmates. After standing up he saw the object again for a few seconds, but the passage of the object, taking less than an estimated five seconds, was too rapid to be witnessed by any of the other men.

The witness said that during the observation, the object travelled in an absolutely straight line, and at times was passing through cloud. The sky was heavily overcast at the time, the cloud level being less than 1000 feet altitude with respect to the observer. He was not able to estimate its apparent size, which was sufficient for him to detect that it was definitely circular. His final view of it was as it continued on an apparently dead straight horizontal trajectory into cloud. There was no sound and no trail of any kind visible.

The information content in this sighting is admittedly very meagre, but we were impressed with the witness's strength of conviction that he had sighted something inexplicable. He refused to accept any of the natural explanations we suggested, and was adamant that the object's tremendous speed, the dead straight trajectory, and the total absence of sound ruled out any normal explanation.

Blackburn, 17/8/77, 8.00 p.m.

An unusual illuminated object was sighted passing over Blackburn a little after eight by a woman and her son. The principal witness, a high school teacher of mathematics, heard a whooshing noise "like a blow torch but lower in pitch" for two or three seconds while she was watching TV. She immediately ran outside and saw a large object moving slowly and silently due west on a course that had taken it directly over her house. At this stage, about 15 seconds after she had heard the noise, she called her son, 19, who came out on an upstairs balcony and also viewed the object. When first sighted by the woman, the object was at an elevation of about 35 degrees, and they both watched it for about 7 minutes as it moved at a slow steady speed towards the west on a straight horizontal course, finally disappearing over a rise about 2½ miles away. (The object's path took it over heavily populated residential area)

Re-enacting the observation later, the witness estimated that at its closest the object subtended 2½ inches at arm's length, and, using the other estimated data, and assuming that the sound was heard when the object was directly overhead, calculations yielded the following rough results: the object's altitude was between three and four hundred feet; the speed was about 20 mph; its size (dimension perpendicular to travel direction) was about 60 feet.

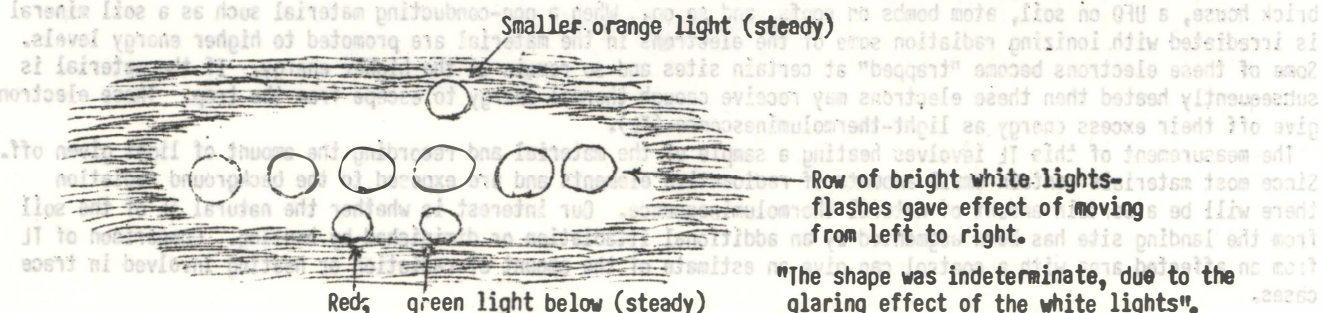
It has to be remembered that such quantitative estimates by people inexperienced in doing so can be grossly in error. However, this particular witness, as well as being trained in mathematics, took the trouble to recreate each step of the sighting, going over her every remembered action. The figures finally arrived at should be accepted with a high degree of reliability.

The woman and her son were greatly astonished by the closeness of the object and its absence of sound. Their separate sketches of the object agreed closely, although the son did not see the object at such close proximity since he took a few seconds longer to reach his viewing position.

The object appeared as an indistinct dark elliptical area with a row of white lights, which were pulsating out of unison, giving the appearance of a progression from left to right. Throughout the observation, the object's orientation remained constant, as shown in the diagram.

After the sighting the witness made several phone calls seeking information, but neither the police nor the airport were able to offer any explanation.

We also spoke to a man living a few blocks away who saw the same phenomenon, but his observation was when the object was well away to the west, and he could add no further details to its description.





Bayswater, 31/8/77, 3.45 p.m.

A 12 year old school boy was cycling on a service road adjacent to the Mountain Highway, Bayswater, when he saw a dark object emerge from clouds on his right, and travel for a few seconds parallel to his direction of motion. He dismounted from his bike and stood on the road to watch the object, which at first appeared to be "like a dark cloud". As it came closer it took on the appearance of a "saucer", as he called it. The object, at this stage at about 45 degrees elevation, then turned and moved away in a direction perpendicular to the road, and disappeared towards the mountains with an up and down undulatory motion. The object, he said, was making no sound, apart from a slight whirling or whistling noise while it was at its closest. He saw no smoke, vapour or luminosity about the object.

He estimated its distance at its closest as "about 200 yards", and was about equal to the moon's diameter in apparent size. The object was in sight for about 7 seconds.

His sketch of the object is reproduced. It appeared to him to be a black solid object. The protruding objects on the under side he believed to be "lights that were not on" - they had the appearance of hemispherical shades around light globes. These protuberances were not illuminated, but they were of various colours - for instance he could distinguish some green, blue, red and black ones. However, he could not define exactly their positions or pattern on the object.

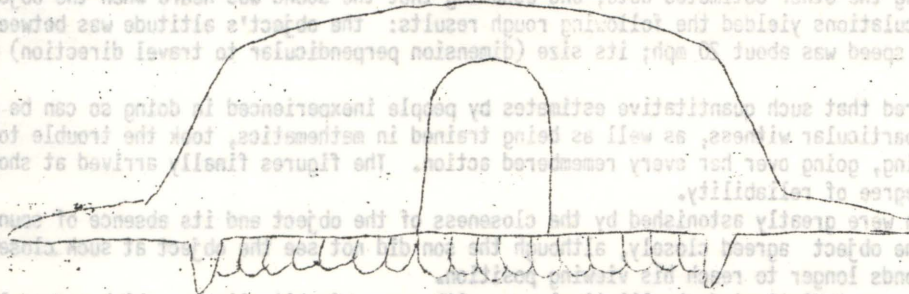
As for the appearance of the object, he was certain about the round-topped "door", which was visible while the object was moving parallel to his direction, but as the object turned, the "door" was lost to view, and no other features were visible on the black dome. Questioned further about the "door", he claimed he could see "square pivets" around its perimeter.

We asked him to describe the incident again at the actual location. The direction of the observation overlooks paddocks for several hundred metres, with built up residential area beyond. He was unable to give us a clear estimate of size, but from his description and by making comparisons with nearby objects, we got the impression that the object must have appeared about the size of a car at 200 yards.

Immediately after the sighting the lad rode home again and told his story to his friend of about the same age, who suggested that he should report it to the local newspaper. This he did, by himself, his parents not being home at the time.

Naturally, a description of a claimed unusual object given by such a young witness must be treated with some reservation. However, we found him to be a sensible, normal boy, who by his manner did not display any intention to impress us with a spectacular story. In the interview we tried to get a clue as to how much prior interest or knowledge he had of the subject of UFOs, and we are satisfied that it was very minimal. In discussions with his mother, she told us that he had had no special interest in the subject previously; and she was most impressed by the fact that he had rung up the newspaper of his own accord, an action which indicated to her that he had genuinely seen something abnormal.

- Ray Fischer, Les Bristol.



#### TESTS ON KARAWINNA SAMPLES NEGATIVE

A new technique has recently become available to ACOS for the analysis of physical trace events. This method is potentially capable of detecting the effects of any ionising radiation from the UFO and also measuring any heating effects. It can be applied to almost all inorganic non-conducting materials such as soil, rock, bricks, bottles, roof tiles, etc. Overseas, scientists have used it to study effects of ball lightning on a church steeple and a brick house, a UFO on soil, atom bombs on roofs, and so on. When a non-conducting material such as a soil mineral is irradiated with ionizing radiation some of the electrons in the material are promoted to higher energy levels. Some of these electrons become "trapped" at certain sites and so remain at the higher energy. If the material is subsequently heated then these electrons may receive enough thermal energy to escape from the trap. These electrons give off their excess energy as light-thermoluminescence (TL).

The measurement of this TL involves heating a sample of the material and recording the amount of light given off. Since most materials contain small amounts of radioactive elements and are exposed to the background radiation there will be a certain amount of natural thermoluminescence. Our interest is whether the natural TL of the soil from the landing site has been augmented by an additional irradiation or diminished by heating. Comparison of TL from an affected area with a control can give an estimate of the amount of radiation or heating involved in trace cases.



The thermoluminescent technique effectively measures the amount of radiation damage in a sample. A major advantage is that (apart from an effect which disappears within a day or so) this radiation damage in quartz - a major component in soils, etc. - is reasonably stable, and old sites can be reinvestigated using this new technique. For example, the incident involving the church steeple occurred in 1846.

On Sep. 25, 1976, four witnesses observed an illuminated object rising from the ground at Karawinna, near Mildura. A discoloured circle was found at the site (Bulletin, Nov., 1976). Three samples of soil from the site - centre of circle; edge of circle; and outside circle - have been examined using the TL technique by ACOS consultant, Dr. G. T. Stevens. The results of the testing are as follows:

Three soil samples associated with the sighting at Karawinna have been analyzed primarily by thermoluminescence. The results indicate that the affected area had not been strongly heated (consistent with the observation that there was no charred vegetation on the site). The sample from the centre of the area showed a slightly higher TL output than the other two, corresponding to an irradiation dose of about 100 rad. The most probable explanation for this is due to a slightly lower decay rate of the effect of the background radiation.

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#### VICTORIAN PRESS REPORTS

About a dozen sightings are reported in the Victorian press for September and October. Reports have come from Elsternwick, Ferntree Gully, Boronia, Sherbrooke, Werribee, Portarlington, Ballarat, Stawell and the Grampians. We are attempting to get further details on these cases, but all are of the "lights in the sky" type, the vast majority of which turn out to have a natural explanation. The best of the reports, reproduced here from the Horsham Mail-Times, 24/10/77, may be explicable when further information is available:

An unidentified flying object which appeared to land on the Black Range fringe south of Horsham has disappeared without a trace. Four spotlight shooters saw the object clearly as it dropped slowly from the sky. Peter Hallam, 19, shearar, of Brimpaen, said yesterday: "It was like a round red globe, so bright you could hardly look at it". The object had dropped to ground level behind a belt of trees about 400 metres from the spotlighters' utility truck and vanished. The shooters searched the area without success. Another search was in progress today.

Peter Hallam said the four men sighted the object about 9.15 p.m. "I was with my uncle, Ted Brown, of Brimpaen, and a couple of shearers spotlighting for rabbits and foxes in the Black Range area down towards Cherrypool", he said. "There was a little bit of moonlight. I was in the back of the ute with one of the shearers. As I swung the spotlight around towards the south I saw what looked like a big round globe in the sky, not much higher than the horizon. There was a line of trees a couple of hundred metres away and it wasn't much above the trees. The red globe appeared to have a long pole on top of it with some object on top of the pole. But it was hard to define, being real bright with a sort of haze around it. It was so bright you could hardly look at it. We all saw it for 15 to 20 seconds. Ted jumped out of the driver's side and said: 'Look at that!' The thing came down very slowly, about the same pace as a landing helicopter and on a slight angle. I can't be sure whether it touched the ground. It went down behind the trees but we could still see the glow behind them", Peter said.

"It looked to be about a quarter of a mile away when it reached about ground level and just disappeared. After searching the area without success for about a quarter of an hour we gave it up and went back to the spotlighting. But it sure startled us a bit"...

#### SOME INTERSTATE REPORTS

##### Tasmania

3/2/77; 2030: Children at a youth camp were going to a washroom prior to bedtime. Hearing a noise, they looked up and saw a domed object with flashing lights. Windows were seen on the object, which was also spinning. In the centre window a figure was seen. The object then moved away after 1 - 2 minutes. The figure was described as being thin, having a large collar, and an arm to the right. The witnesses stated that the figure moved its head and also changed position. (TUFOIC)

##### South Australia

20/5/77; 0600: A 16 year old girl at Murbko was going to work when she saw a light through some trees. She went to investigate as she thought it was a fire on the neighbours' paddock. When she got to the fence she saw, about 10 yards away, a big red glow, about 5 - 10 yards wide. Feeling slightly afraid, she reversed the car, and saw the glow rising until it was lost from sight. (UFO Research, Inc. S.A.)

30/7/77; 1540: A woman was travelling southwards along the Williamstown to Birdwood road when she noticed an unusual object in the sky to her left, gradually getting lower in the sky. She stopped her vehicle and looked through the side window and saw that it had come to rest apparently on the ground in a clearing by an electricity pylon. From her position (she was almost directly below the high voltage powerline where it crosses the Birdwood - Williamstown road) she had a good view of the object and the surrounding countryside. It looked a bit like a large aircraft in that it had a long fat body with what appeared to be a tail sticking up in the air. She couldn't see any wings or landing wheels, etc., merely a slightly crinkled (linearly) top surface. Seen at an estimated 5 - 600 m., it was an estimated 50 - 60 m. long by some 10 m. high, with the tail portion maybe as much as 20 m. off the ground. It rested on the ground for a number of minutes then rose soundlessly into the air vertically, and sped off into the sky at great speed. She then turned and went home alarmed at what she had seen. There was no noise. Inspection of the area revealed nothing unusual in the paddock grass. (UFO Research, Inc., S.A.)



New South Wales

4/1/77; 2130: A 20 year old man and his girlfriend were returning home from holidays along the Bell Line road near Lithgow, heading east towards Sydney. About 5 miles from Lithgow they sighted a huge orange glow in the distance, which they first thought may have been a bushfire. After a few minutes the glow appeared to be moving overhead and towards the passenger side of the car. It appeared to be a huge circular diffuse glow which was confined to its own parameters. Their vehicle had by now become enveloped in a large fog patch estimated to be at least 300 feet across, which remained with them until the glow had passed by. The glow was described as being orange-yellow in colour and more intense towards the centre. The night was dark with extensive cloud cover and the full moon was barely visible. The glow was then observed to recede into the distance. The entire event lasted 10 minutes. (UFO Research, NSW)

Late May, 1977: A boy observed an orange sphere with "windows" at very low altitude, possibly resting on the ground on a farm on the outskirts of Orange. A dog was barking and a horse very agitated. The boy told his mother, who then confirmed the presence of the object at low level and saw it was projecting a long beam of light. The object moved over a hill and was last seen as a glow in the sky. Subsequent investigations found physical trace markings. Samples are undergoing examination. (UFO Research, NSW)

Western Australia

The West Australian for 26 Sep reports the finding by a farmer on his property 30 km west of Mt. Barker of an unexplained ground mark in the middle of an isolated lush green pasture. The patch, about 3 metres in diameter, has a neatly scoured circular hole in the centre about 60 cm wide and 20 cm deep. Placed almost equidistant around the perimeter of the patch were three shallower indentations. Said the farmer, Mr. Philip Drage, 37: "When I found the patch on Friday I dismissed it as possibly the work of pranksters. But then I started to think about it and found it hard to imagine anyone going to such a remote paddock - and one which is not visible from any of the surrounding farms. I also began to think about the neat spacing of the three tripod-type marks and the smooth hole in the centre, from which the earth has been removed. No matter what did this it is certainly unidentified". Samples from the site were examined by the University of W.A., the results of which showed no sign of radiation, acid changes (due to high voltages) or other chemical changes or reactions.

The West Australian reports on sightings at Meekatharra (18/10/77):

...Mr. Victor Trace, a chef at the town's Royal Mail Hotel, said that silver and red objects were seen for about seven minutes. "We all stood and watched and when it was all over none of us could believe what we had seen", he said.

Mr. Trace and his wife Angela were sitting in their lounge about 2.30 p.m. (Sunday, Oct. 16) when their son, Craig, 8, ran inside, calling out: "Daddy, come quick, there's a lot of smoke". "I ran outside expecting to find a fire, but instead there was a kind of mist in the air", Mr. Trace said. "Then I saw a saucer shaped object with a dome on top. It was bright silver. I called to my wife to come outside".

Mr. and Mrs. Trace were joined by their other five children, a neighbour, Mrs. Thelma Kingswood, and 12 year old Geoffrey Miller. Mr. Trace said: "It was impossible to say how far away it was. It looked to be about the size of a dinner plate. It was very bright on top. We had to shield our eyes to look at it. It was swinging and appeared to be wobbling at the same time. Then a most amazing thing happened. A bright red object came out of the side of the silver one. The two were side by side. We simply could not believe our eyes. I don't believe in these things. We were all in a state of panic. Suddenly, the red object shot upwards and out of sight at enormous speed. Then the silver one disappeared in the same way".

Mr. Trace said that his wife and Mrs. Kingswood were badly shocked and had not recovered their composure yesterday. No military aircraft were in the area on Sunday afternoon.... Sgt. I. Carlson, of the Meekatharra police, said: "We have made extensive inquiries but can offer no explanation. We have no reason to doubt Mr. Trace's story".

From the Perth News, Oct 18:

....Four Westrail workers claim to have seen two silver objects hovering above a train at Meekatharra early today.... Meekatharra assistant station master, Mr. Cliff Hughes, 20, said he was with the crew of a train from Mt. Magnet when one of the men noticed an object in the sky (1.10 a.m.).

"What we could see was a small ball, silver in colour, hovering overhead", he said today. "A second joined it, it was flashing from silver to red as if it was spinning. One headed off and the other followed. I believe in them now..."

The licensee of the Mt. Magnet Hotel, Mr. Bob Freestone, said two hotel employees came in "white and scared" last night about 9 o'clock. "They said these things had been chasing them", Mr. Freestone said. "We decided to go out, there were eight people there. We saw saucers, they were there for sure". Mr. Freestone said three "round, pulsating green and red" objects landed in paddocks about 3 km from the town.

"There seemed to be a mist around them", he said. He said the objects took off and moved around the area, landing several times before they left. "There appeared to be objects on the ground around them", he said. "You could distinguish them with the naked eye, but as soon as you put a spotlight on them they disappeared. They would be something like human size, they weren't animals"...

...Mr. Keith Miller, who was playing golf on Sunday, is convinced both his young sons, aged 10 and 7, saw the object. He said today they both described a silver disc. "I got them to draw separately what they saw", he said. "They came up with the same picture. They had my field glasses and viewed it through them. Obviously these things are around, for sure"...

The first Meekatharra sighting was one of three on the weekend. The others were objects in Fremantle, and by a farmer at Mukinbudin....



OVERSEAS ITEMSFirst UFO Sighter is Still Seeking Answer (Northern Daily Leader, Tamworth, 27/7/77)

The man who started the "flying saucer" era 30 years ago is still searching for more UFOs. "I think we're going to have a solution to the UFO mystery very soon, perhaps even this year", said Ken Arnold, a 58 year old businessman from Boise, Idaho.

Arnold launched the modern UFO era in 1947, when he reported sighting nine disc-shaped objects flying over Mt. Rainier in Washington state. He told reporters that their actions were similar to "saucers skipping over water". From this description, newspapers dubbed the objects "flying saucers".

Arnold's sighting kicked off a rash of UFO reports. "It was incredible", he recalled. "Within a few days after I made my report on what I saw, everyone started seeing them". Arnold said he often regretted reporting what he had seen. "For the first five years or so, no one would take UFOs seriously", he said. "People would snigger and joke and say that anyone who thought he saw 'flying saucers' had a screw loose".

But he has never gone back on what he saw, and today he still investigates UFO sightings, and recently attended the International UFO Congress in Chicago.

UFOs "Time Machines" (Adelaide News, 31/8/77)

New York, today: UFOs are really time machines from the earth's future, according to an authority on the subject. Adrian Vance, West Coast editor of Popular Photography magazine and a UFO expert says an amazing photograph which shows a UFO in three separate places at the same time proves his time machine theory. Vance said: "The picture, taken in Oregon in 1966, proved beyond reasonable doubt that the UFO pictured was travelling in time. It was in three different places at the same time. That can only be done if the craft is travelling in time".

Vance, who has documented his findings in a soon-to-be-released book, "UFOs, The Eye and the Camera", says the photo, which shows no tampering, spurred him on to search for more documentation. He found another photo taken near Anchorage, Alaska, which, he says, showed the same phenomenon.

Using his knowledge of photography and his training in the physical sciences, Vance has constructed a startling theory to explain the rash of UFO sightings. He believes that UFOs fall into two distinct categories: those which use time simply as a medium of transportation, and time travellers who can move from the future into the past and vice-versa.

"This explains why no wreckage of a UFO has ever been found", says Vance. "If trouble occurred, a rescue ship could simply travel back in time and correct whatever went wrong".

UFO Visitors Caught on Film (Melbourne Sunday Observer, 11/9/77)

Astronaut Gordon Cooper is convinced that alien beings are visiting earth and that the American Government has documented proof of it. Cooper claims that a UFO landed at a West Coast military installation "right under the noses of the top brass".

UFO investigator Lee Spiegel says Cooper told him the incident took place at Edwards Air Force Base in California. The Government has been keeping quiet about it ever since.

"Cooper maintains that the object - a solid disc with no portholes or visible doorways - came to rest on the dry lake bed located on the perimeter of the base", says Spiegel. "Obviously the appearance of the craft created a lot of excitement. A film crew was rushed to the area and filmed the object for some time before it finally lifted off. Cooper claimed the film was rushed to Washington never to be seen again". No attempt was made to detain the craft.

Space Men Haunt UFO Favourite (Melbourne Sunday Observer, 11/9/77)

Brian Scott has been plagued by mysterious happenings since he first reported being abducted by a space craft in 1971. Bizarre lights have been seen in Scott's home several times, and police were called when Brian disappeared in his house in front of his wife. Hours later he was found wandering in a daze in the back yard. Brian insisted he had just been brought back to earth by the alien beings.

Without warning he falls into deep trances during which something that identifies itself as "Asta" gives technically advanced information not normally known to Brian, who is a draftsman. Voice prints taken in these sessions and studied by researchers from UCLA have shown that the voice patterns "could not technically have been made by a human being". The researchers said the patterns resemble those made by a machine - perhaps a robot or a computer.

Under hypnosis Brian tells a frightening story of his first encounter with the alien beings while on holiday. Brian, who lives in Garden Grove, Cal., says he was taken into a dark room where "seven foot tall creatures moved their hands over my body and disrobed me".

Heat is on Man Jolted in "Saucer" (Brisbane Courier Mail, 6/10/77)

Rio de Janeiro (AAP-AFP): A truck driver, 33, who claims he was dragged in a flying saucer has doctors here baffled. For his body temperature keeps soaring to 42 degrees, which could kill him. Normal temperature is 37 deg. But as the experts gather round - refusing to comment - Antonio Larrubia stays obstinately alive and eager to tell his story to radio and television.

He said that he was strolling near his home in the Rio suburb of Paciencia at 3 a.m. last Friday when he saw a flying saucer land in the square. Two short, broad-shouldered beings pushed him into the spacecraft, in which there were about 50 more of the creatures, he claimed. When he cried out in fear, he was hit by a sort of bolt of lightning which made his body feel as if it were on fire.

Mr. Larrubia found himself lying dizzy in the square again, about an hour later. He thought he had been burned alive and asked to be drenched with water at a nearby garage.



"His clinical condition remains astonishing", said Dr. Nelly David. "I have never seen a case like it". Dr. Neri Ferreira explained: "Thyroid gland hypertension and flooding of the cerebral ventricle brain cavity with blood after concussion or haemorrhage could cause such a high temperature".

#### U.N. Told of UFO Sightings (West Australian, 10/10/77)

Washington, Sunday : The Prime Minister of Grenada, Sir Eric Gairy, told the United Nations yesterday that he had seen an unidentified flying object and had been overwhelmed by the experience. In an address to the General Assembly Sir Eric gave no details and was not immediately available afterward for interview.

But he said the news media were "agog with interest" at his action in having the subject of UFOs included for discussion at the current assembly session. His proposal for either a new U.N. agency or committee to study "flying saucers" and similar phenomena will be debated by the assembly's special political committee late next month.

He also said that the media were "understandably full of excitement and curiosity about discussions I might have had on this subject with President Carter". The two conferred for 45 minutes last month when Sir Eric was in Washington for the signing of the new Panama Canal treaties.

The Prime Minister has twice before spoken to the assembly about the need to study such unexplained phenomena as UFOs and "the Bermuda Triangle" - the mysterious Atlantic graveyard of ships and planes.

#### Now Rustlers Travel by UFO (Melbourne Sunday Observer, 23/10/77)

Denver: Colorado ranchers are toting guns again and on the trail of a gang of high flying rustlers from outer space. Since August, 1975 eerie bright objects - dubbed Big Mama and Baby UFOs - have appeared in the sky over northwest Colorado. And after every visit a trail of mutilated cattle is left behind. Since the first sighting, 74 cows, one steer, one bull and a horse have been left mutilated. In every case, parts of the body - eyes, ears, tongues and sex organs - were removed in ways that have left veterinary surgeons baffled.

"There is a definite connection between the lights and the mutilations", said Logan County Sheriff Harry Graves, of Sterling, Colorado. "It's very puzzling. There is absolutely no sign that the deaths were caused by predators - and in all cases there were no visible footprints or tyre tracks", said Graves, a law officer with 23 years experience.

He and four other officers have seen Big Mama several times. "Big Mama looks like a huge, brilliant star that hovers high in the sky for up to 90 minutes and then suddenly disappears at great speed. Sometimes as many as three baby UFOs come out of the belly of Big Mama", said the Sheriff. "When the little ones get done with whatever they're up to, they return to the big one and disappear".

Logan County residents started reporting the weird objects at the same time as the first animal mutilations.

#### COLOMBIAN PILOT BLINDED BY UFO

Even though this story was the headline front page story of May 6, 1977 in Bogota, only one international news agency (Agence France Presse) released anything on this incident, and it was a very brief account of it. Why UPI nor AP nor Reuters carried any mention of the sighting is beyond my understanding. If this isn't NEWS, then what is? Comment and article by Joseph M. Brill. (Reprinted from "Xenolog", No. 112, NZ)

A young and inexperienced flying student of Bogota, Colombia, accomplished a dramatic and spectacular landing of his airplane at the Eldorado Airport on May 5, 1977. What made this particular landing different was that the pilot at the controls of the craft was suffering from a temporary blindness caused by a direct encounter with an unidentified flying object.

After a nightmarish flight in a Cessna 150 light aircraft which lasted for 45 minutes, without instruments aboard the aircraft operational, over the plains of Bogota, the pilot, Manuel Jose Lopez Ojeda was guided by radio and four other airplanes, which furnished him with an escort up to the runway of the airport. Lopez Ojeda was on the verge of crashing into the control tower on two occasions when attempting approaches to the central runway while suffering a partial and temporary blindness.

The pilot involved in the incredible experience with the UFO kept not only the personnel who work at the airport under constant stress, but also thousands of listeners in Bogota, who began to hear the broadcast of the experiences as they were happening during the full duration of the flight.

For more than thirty minutes, four single engine aircraft from the two schools of flying, Aeroclub of Colombia, and Aeroandes, under the control of expert instructors, "led by the hand" in an unbelievable flight directing from airplane to airplane Lopez Ojeda until guiding him down safe and sound on the main runway at Eldorado.

At 9.15 a.m. Manuel Jose Lopez Ojeda climbed on board the Cessna 150 plane, registry number HK 1164-I, of the Aeroclub of Colombia Flying School. After taxiing the plane to the head of the runway at the airport at Guaymaral, he decided to practise landing exercises before attempting some flight manoeuvres. The young pilot carried out two traffic pattern approaches and then flew to zone I, which is designated between the villages of Tabio-Chia and Cota to the north of Bogota. In this sector, marked out by the aeronautic authorities as a zone for manoeuvres, Lopez Ojeda began to repeat one after another the manoeuvres of a slow flight, stalls with and without the power on, and turns, both gentle and tight turns to the right and to the left. It was approximately 10 a.m. In one of the tight turns towards the left the HK 1164-I began to vibrate with great intensity.

"On coming out of the turn, the tachometer, airspeed indicator and all the instruments on board were showing zero. The plane would not respond and it was shaking with great force. To the left side I saw an oval object the colour of a dark cloud. Surrounding it were yellowish and red phosphorescent lights which were shining with high intensity".

This was the initial observation of the strange object as described by the young pilot, who was besieged by press reporters minutes after being led to the clinic of the port health authority of Eldorado Airport, where he was given emergency attention by Dr. Hernando Silva Moreno.



On continuing with his account the pilot said: "It was somewhat disconcerting, the aircraft was not responding to my movement of the controls. It was at that moment I began to feel strong pressure in my ears and head. My hands and body were itching. However, I was very conscious of all that I was doing and seeing".

"This was all happening in just a matter of seconds", added the pilot, "since the UFO which initially was on the side of the aircraft had moved down, just below the landing gear of the plane. It was at this time that the situation got even worse for me and the plane I was flying. It was shaking with even greater intensity and the controls were not working and the instruments continued to show zero, but the plane continued to fly in a circle at the same altitude. I did not notice or was aware of any loss or gain in altitude", declared the pilot and repeated that he was fully conscious of everything that was taking place. "The radio did not function for several minutes and I lost all contact with the tower at Guaymaral".

"The diameter of the UFO was approximately 15 to 20 metres", stated the pilot on being asked about this detail. "It was like an aluminium mass", and he repeated that "it moved underneath the landing gear for some 30 to 40 seconds but at no time did it make direct contact" with his craft. During that period of a few seconds the pilot managed to make contact with the control tower at Guaymaral and declared the emergency situation. "Later the UFO moved to the front of the plane and that was when I began to lose my sight. Everything looked cloudy. For just a moment it seemed I was recovering my visibility but I was thinking to myself that this was the end for me. It seemed to me as if I were flying over a desert and mountainous zone always in a circle. The strange object disappeared and I was left blind".

Two training planes were sent from Guaymaral to the zone indicated by Lopez Ojeda. They quickly made radio contact with him and began then the rescue flight. In addition to the first two airplanes, two others were added, under the control of expert flight instructors who skilfully began to direct the flight of the blinded pilot.

From zone one close to the village of Tabio, where the HK1164-I still remained flying about, the four instructors began operation "Lanarillo". Meanwhile, at the control tower at Eldorado and the tower at Guaymaral, panic reigned among the aeronautic authorities and the companions of the young pilot. At the same time, suspension of all flight operations was ordered at Eldorado while the emergency existed.

The aerial odyssey involving the five aircraft began at 10,500 feet not far from Guaymaral. The instructional phase began by attempting to orient, in direction, pilot Lopez Ojeda, to whom at that moment everything looked the same and who appeared to be or sounded as if he were in a drunken stupor. On four occasions over the airport of Eldorado, the group of instructors and the security chief of aeronautics, Major Jairo Garcia, attempted to bring about a landing of the HK 1164-I, which at the time was under the control of the blind aviator. In two of these attempts, the light plane placed the nerves on edge for dozens of workers at the airport authority, who from the lower floors of the control tower were observing the approach manoeuvres of the plane towards the runway. It was believed on those two occasions that the aircraft would crash into the control tower, however, those moments of anxiety were overcome when the aircraft passed by and continued its flight without a definite course. The pilot instructors were making all kinds of attempts to orient and maintain on course, in traffic approach pattern, the young pilot who in these moments could not get away from the thought that he was going to die.

On the ground, all necessary measures for security had been taken. At the head of runway no. one, and on each of the taxi-ways along the length of the runway, a fire engine was ready to follow the trajectory of the plane on landing.

The traffic patterns, which normally are made in order to land at this airport, were exceeded in all their limits. In none of the aborted approaches was the trajectory of the plane normal. It was always off towards the right of the runway in order to pass close to the control tower. The altitude was the principle objective of the instructors seeking to save Lopez Ojeda, since the approach trajectories, during the first four occasions, were not directed down the centre line of the runway.

A momentary recovery of sight, although far from perfect by the pilot, enabled him to focus on the runway and carry out a perfect landing. At each side and at a prudent distance, in case of emergency were flying the four single engine planes with the instructors which were guiding him. The landing manoeuvre was completely successful in front of by now hundreds of curiosity seekers who were concentrated at the airport terminal in order to observe close-up the ending of the aerial odyssey.

The pilot was found frozen to the controls and with his body facing front, still with his safety belt fastened. He was rescued from the interior of the Cessna 150 by two men from the fire department who led him to an ambulance which was stationed close to the plane, and where Dr. Silva Moreno from the Airport Health Clinic was located. The doctor gave him a complete examination and provided tranquilisers for the nerves. Later the pilot was taken to the clinic where the flyer recuperated from his affliction which he states was produced in him by a UFO in accord with the characteristics with which this class of object has been defined. Dr. Silva Moreno said after examining the pilot that the physical condition of Lopez Ojeda was satisfactory.

The presence of the UFO was not detected by the radars at the airport, but this has a very logical explanation in that Lopez Ojeda was flying over a region of many hills which cause interferences and do not permit radar coverage. Moreover, since UFOs are usually of an oval form, according to most authorities and witnesses, they present a very small surface of reflection. Nevertheless, workers in the control tower at Eldorado are accustomed to observing UFOs, especially on clear nights, and in the majority of these occasions when they have been observed, their presence has not been recorded by the radar units. One of the air traffic controllers, Danilo Zambrano, who has reportedly seen UFOs on five different occasions, when interviewed by the press related: "We are very accustomed to seeing UFOs on clear and cloudless nights. Twenty days ago (16/4/77), I saw one of those craft, which was moving in a zig-zag trajectory. That same UFO was observed by the pilot and crew of a Jumbo Jet airliner. I could clearly see that it moved about even from the control tower. I estimated that it was at an altitude of about 20,000 feet then it gained altitude and disappeared towards the north. It had the luminosity of an orange-green colour".



A FRENCH SIGHTING

A report by the French group, Societe Vauclusienne d'Etude des Phenomenes Spatiaux (SOVEPS), translated from the magazine "Approche" by Ray Fischer.

These events unfolded during the night of 1/2 Feb., 1977 at La Maison Familiale Rurale d'Education et d'Orientation, at Eyragues (Bouches-du-Rhone, near Avignon). SOVEPS was informed of this affair on the morning of Feb. 3 by the gendarmerie brigade of Chateaufort (SOVEPS expresses its thanks to the gendarmerie, without whom this investigation would not have been possible.) The investigators went to the site the same afternoon to hear the testimony of the witnesses, three young girls: Mlles. S.G., 14; M.C., 15; J.G., 14.

La Maison Familiale is situated within the walls of the Mas du Magasin, about one km. to the west of Eyragues. Surrounded by trees, it consists of several buildings; in front of the house, a field of apple trees. There is no other house within a radius of 100 metres.

The night of Tuesday, 1/2 Feb., the young girls were retired in one of the rooms. It was about 23.30, and the three of them were sitting on their beds chatting. One of them, M.C., then heard a humming outside, and turning to look out the window facing south, she observed the passage of a luminous "machine".

"Look!" she said, getting up, and in an instant her two friends, as well as the three occupants of the neighbouring room were leaning out the windows. The object manoeuvred at great speed to the middle of the treetops, at about 20 m. height. It appeared to be in the form of a white hemisphere from below, at the base of which was a disc shaped part coloured orange, green and red; the object rotated at great speed. Underneath the object was a tail in the shape of a "corkscrew". Its diameter was about 60 cm.

The object soon became stationary in the fork of a large tree. During several minutes, emitting an intense light and a constant sound ("like that of flies", said one of the witnesses, while another compared the sound to the whizzing of a lasso when whirled in the air), it remained immobile.

Suddenly it moved, effected a complete circuit of the tree, and at great speed approached another tree situated at the corner of the main building and the wall. It rounded the plane tree, and, as the witnesses reported: "I saw it depart straight ahead in the direction of Saint-Remy. It was as big as a steering-wheel, and for 5 minutes it was stationary in the air, but it was never steady; its lights flickered". The tree last flown round was about 15 metres from the two windows where the young girls were. One of the girls, frightened from the beginning of the phenomenon, went back to bed and hid under the blankets.

(Extract from the gendarmerie's investigations): "The six young girls were unanimous in the description of the phenomenon seen. One of them, named G.J., frightened by the sight of the phenomenon, experienced such shock that the matron of the establishment sent her to bed in her room. These six young girls were judged to be very sensible. The information given appears to be possible (taking account of the precision in the description of the phenomenon and the panic of the witnesses and others). It is to be noted that the gendarmes heard six witnesses - 4 girls of 15, one of 14 and one of 16.

Some branches which, according to the witnesses, had been in the path of the object were collected by SOVEPS and sent to C.N.E.S. at Toulouse for examination. The results were, however, negative: "It is extremely rare that we are able to learn what has happened with vegetation samples - only an important effect established at the site, perhaps, could be useful (e.g., a large circle of parched grass or leaves...) Besides, if vegetation samples are not analysed immediately after the event (less than 48 hours) one cannot extract anything".

The newspaper Dauphine Libre, 5/2/77, carried an article under the title: "In Less Than A Month A Dozen Eyragues People Have Seen UFOs".

- "Approche" No. 14; 6 Rue Paulin-Guerin, 83000 Toulon, France.

BOOK REVIEW

"Socorro 'Saucer' in a Pentagon Pantry", by Ray Stanford (1976, Blueapple Books, P.O. Box 5694, Austin, Texas, 78763)

Ray Stanford, a veteran of 23 years of UFO research in the U.S., is director of Project Starlight International, the world's only full time facility employing a broad array of scientific equipment for UFO data monitoring, and editor of the "Journal For Instrumented UFO Research".

In his book, "Socorro 'Saucer' in a Pentagon Pantry", Ray Stanford has presented us with a most detailed account of his investigation into the Socorro, New Mexico landing of 24th April, 1964, in which local policeman, Lonnie Zamora observed two humanoids beside their egg-shaped craft.

His research has been exceedingly thorough, although perhaps too much so in some instances. It appears beyond the realms of possibility to quote dimensions of the craft to within fractions of an inch, and he sequences the sighting to the nearest second - whilst at all times maintaining that these are merely approximations! Dubious though this may be, he bases his conclusions on his intensive examination of the landing site only 24 hours after the sighting.

A very interesting aspect of the book is his disclosure that Goddard Space Flight Centre in Maryland were involved in analysing a mineral sample scraped from a piece of broken rock found beside an imprint of part of the landing gear. The subsequent information released makes for thought provoking reading. His claims appear to be well documented and witnessed and should even set the sceptics thinking.

The story of Socorro is fascinating; this book is a useful and informative addition to our library.

- Nada Richards.



## ANTI MATTER

by Guy Richards

Gottfried Leibniz, as far back as the seventeenth century, proposed a hierarchical structure for matter, in which the smallest unit reflected the largest in microcosm. Scientists today still seek understanding of the Universe in the sub-atomic structures.

In 1928 Paul Dirac succeeded in demonstrating that Einstein's theory of relativity could be combined with quantum mechanics to describe the behavior of particles. He predicted from his experiments the existence of anti-matter: that is, a particle with equal mass yet opposite quantum and electromagnetic properties.

C. D. Anderson in 1932 detected positrons, the anti-matter equivalent of electrons in cloud chamber photographs of cosmic rays. Since then laboratory experiments have proven the existence of anti-particles for all known particles - with two exceptions. These are the photon and pion, which are in fact their own anti-particles. Scientists have determined that our solar system is almost entirely composed of matter, though anti-matter particles are created when high energy light photons interact with matter. The anti particles thus created have a half life of only a few picoseconds, and so, we remain predominantly matter.

Dirac predicted that when particles and anti-particles collide, the result would be mutual annihilation, a supposition that has since been shown to be true. It can easily be seen, therefore, that the matter and anti-matter may not exist in close proximity without cataclysmic results. If our Universe were a homogeneous mixture, it would result in total annihilation leaving only the energy of that annihilation.

Nature ordinarily is symmetrical and scientists feel justified in expecting that there be equal quantities of matter and anti-matter within the Universe. There is no reason why nature should favour positive or negative. Assume for the moment that there are equal quantities of each in the Universe. We must then ask how the two are spatially located, remembering that if the two interact, they will cease to exist. There are three main theories as to how the two substances are arranged.

The first of these was proposed by Hannes Alfvén and O. Klein in 1963. They suggested that the Universe began as a thin gas cloud composed of equal quantities of matter and anti-matter. The cloud then contracted and so anti-particle / particle annihilation increased, the energy thereby produced reversing the collapse and producing the presently observed situation of an expanding Universe.

A similar process to electrolysis, known as the Leidenfrost effect, separates matter and anti-matter in a magnetic field, which limits interaction during galaxy formation. The effect takes place on a small scale and so matter and anti-matter are separated by only a small distance, hence each galaxy is composed of equal amounts of the two. Our solar system is composed of matter, our neighbouring systems may not be.

A second theory, proposed by Fred Hoyle, formerly of the Institute of theoretical astronomy, Cambridge University, suggests that each co-exists in the same galaxy, in an arrangement different to that proposed by Alfvén / Klein theory. He proposes that anti-matter may form the nucleus of our galaxy, whilst the matter is distributed in the surrounding stars. This theory seems to conflict with the assumption of symmetry as the galactic nucleus has a gravitational mass less than one tenth of that of the surrounding stars. In answer, Hoyle suggests that the nucleus may be fragmented by explosions and that those fragments were then thrown out into inter-galactic space.

The third theory, which is dependent upon the 'Big Bang Theory', was proposed by R. Omnes of the Université Paris-Sud. The recent discovery of a dark background radiation throughout the Universe, is believed by most theoreticians to be a remnant of the massive explosion that marked the beginning of time some 10 - 20 billion years ago. Omnes claims that in the first moments of the 'Big Bang', the Universe consisted of thermal radiation, the energy of which would have been great enough to generate massive and equal quantities of both matter and anti-matter. The initial temperature of the reaction, in order of  $3 \times 10^{12}$  K, would have caused the matter and anti-matter to repel one another, thus creating positive and negative galaxies. As the Universe expanded and the galaxies contracted, so the possibility of galactic interaction was eliminated. Omnes theory relies mainly on the assumption that there is a critical temperature, or level of energy where opposed particles will not interact.

It was in 1949 that Nobel prize winner R. P. Feynmann, proposed that anti-particles could be considered either as oppositely charged particles, or as particles moving backward in time. If we take this second proposition we have symmetry of both matter and time.

A study of UFO reports and photographs show that, generally, UFO's appear hazy without definite lines. In close encounter cases the craft seems to hover just above the ground rather than rest upon it. Could it be that the UFO's visiting Earth are actually from a negative world? I find the suggestion quite plausible. For example, in the few cases where humans have been taken aboard alien craft they are not physically touched or allowed to touch any alien. I believe that these people were surrounded by an energy field which protected both them and the aliens from mutual destruction. Further, I might suggest that perhaps UFO's could be powered by a allowing controlled interaction of the anti-particles to take place. This is obviously unable to explain all sightings but it does account as a reasonable interpretation of the behavior of a large number of UFO's.

For the answers we must wait until either we learn to control anti-matter, or alien scientists and our own can get together.

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\* THE SOCIETY WOULD LIKE TO THANK THOSE MEMBERS WHO HAVE KINDLY SENT IN REPORTS, ARTICLES, AND PRESS CUTTINGS. ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED AND WE HOPE THAT MORE MEMBERS IN THE FUTURE WILL KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK. \*\*\*



V.U.F.O.R.S. MEMBER ATTENDS BRITISH CONFERENCE

by J. M. Reid

This report represents my own personal view of the 1977 N.U.F.O.N (Northern UFO Network annual conference held 10-11/sep/77, at Nottingham, U.K.). conference. That is to say, as a spectator without access to files or any other such information concerning the UFO groups involved. That is, should not therefore, be regarded as an "in depth" report on British Ufology.

The conference on the 10th was a public lecture on UFO's as much as a conference, as can be seen with a glance at the accompanying programme. The delegates and members of the public were welcomed by Miss J. Randles, secretary of N.U.F.O.N. and addressed by Mr. R. Mornell, editor of "U.F.O. Research Review". We were then addressed by Kathleen Preston on the subject of "Zodiacs and Lay lines". She expounded the theory that "Lay lines" can make up patterns between various salient features of the landscape and the possibility of a connection with UFO's. She produced diagrams as supporting evidence of the claim.

Miss Preston's address was followed by an ATV film of UFO work entitled "Open Door". Various members of N.U.F.O.N. were interviewed by a reporter and a dramatic piece of movie film was shown of an alleged high flying UFO seen over America. It was filmed in colour and shown on nation-wide British TV. The American Air Force officially regarded the film as being that of a "High altitude aircraft dumping fuel", but individual pilots who were interviewed denied the claim.

Mr. Barry King followed with "UFO Photo Cases". These were slides of various UFO photo's taken over the years, many of which were familiar to me. The four pictures were taken near Trinidad Island were among the slides.

An interesting talk on UFO's and clouds was given by Mr. B. Delain of Contact, U.K.. He pointed out that many UFO cases are closely associated with clouds and that, over the years, many reports have come in of clouds behaving in a manner inconsistent with normal clouds one might expect to see. He read several reports of clouds moving against the wind, of clouds dropping stones, making loud explosions, and appearing and disappearing very quickly and strangely. A cloud was reported to have descended on a British Army division during the first World War and then rising and disappearing after about ½ an hour. The division was reported missing in action and no trace of it was found.

Mr. C. Bower, Editor of the British Flying Saucer Review told us of the history of the review and this was followed by a discussion on the National "Skywatch" which is co-ordinated by Mr I. Anderson. The skywatch is conducted once a month and is for a period of 1 night during which all members of participating UFO groups across the country spend the night, outside looking for UFO's. Not all UFO Investigators are in favour of holding skywatches, notably Mr. Bowan who suggested that the time would be better spent working on existing UFO cases rather than looking for "needles in a haystack".

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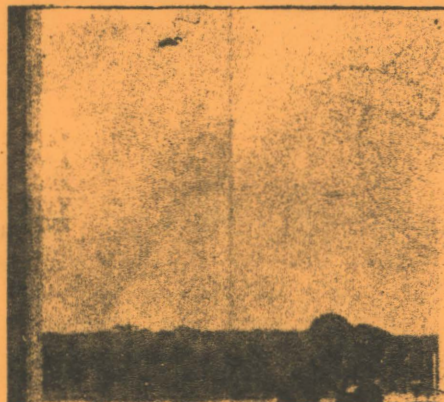
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